

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 05222 140626Z
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-09 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01
ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EPG-02
DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15
STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 FRB-01 XMB-04 OPIC-06
LAB-04 SIL-01 /164 W
-----140630Z 058599 /23

R 140454Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3043
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD POUCH
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWIAT
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

UNCLAS TEHRAN 5222

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, IR
SUBJ: IRANIAN CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS:
MAY AND EARLY JUNE

REF: TEHRAN 4441, TEHRAN 4686

1. DESPITE A SLOW START (REFTELS), IRANIAN CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS IN MAY WERE HIGHER THAN THE PREVIOUS MONTH. THE "FINAL" FIGURES PUBLISHED TODAY BY THREE DIFFERENT LOCAL PUBLICATIONS WERE INCONSISTENT, AND THE FIGURES THAT FOLLOW ARE A FOURTH SET PROVIDED TO THE EMBASSY BY NIOC.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 05222 140626Z

2. DURING MAY, TOTAL CRUDE PRODUCTION AVERAGED 5,741.0 MBPD. THE KHUZESTAN FIELDS ACCOUNTED FOR 5,155.5 MBPD; WHILE THE FOUR JOINT VENTURES AND NIOC ACCOUNTED FOR 578.8 MBPD AND 6.7 MBPD, RESPECTIVELY. NIOC PRODUCTION FROM NAFTA-SHAH FIELD WAS MUCH REDUCED BECAUSE OF SHUT-DOWN OF KERMANSHAH REFINERY, WHICH IS NORMAL OUTLET FOR NAFTA-SHAH OIL, FOR ROUTINE MAINTENANCE. JOINT VENTURE

PRODUCTION WAS, FOR THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE MONTH, AT RECORD LEVELS BECAUSE OF (1) INCREASING PRODUCTION FROM IPAC'S ARDESHIRE FIELD WHICH BEGAN PRODUCTION IN LATE 1976 AND (2) INCREASING PRODUCTION FROM LAPCO'S SASSAN FIELD AS THE RESULT OF ONGOING IMPLEMENTATION OF WATER FLOOD. MAY PRODUCTION WAS 3.1 PERCENT LOWER THAN THE 1976 AVERAGE BUT 1.8 PERCENT HIGHER THAN MAY 1976.

3. DURING MAY, TOTAL CRUDE EXPORTS WERE 5,054.7 MBPD. THE CONSORTIUM TRADING COMPANIES' OFF-TAKE WAS 3,138.9 MBPD WHILE NIOC DIRECT EXPORTS (I.E. "STATED QUANTITY") WERE 1,288.2 MBPD. JOINT VENTURE EXPORTS WERE 627.6 MBPD. CRUDE EXPORTS WERE 2.8 PERCENT LOWER THAN 1976 AVERAGE AND 0.4 PERCENT LOWER THAN MAY 1976. IN ADDITION TO CRUDE EXPORTS, 160.5 MBPD OF CRUDE WERE DELIVERED TO ABADAN REFINERY FOR PROCESSING AND SUBSEQUENT EXPORT AS PRODUCTS.

4. THE IMPACT OF HIGH CRUDE AND PRODUCT INVENTORIES IN MAJOR CONSUMING COUNTRIES AS WELL AS THE GRADUALLY INCREASING LEVEL OF SAUDI PRODUCTION WHICH AFFECTED IRANIAN EXPORTS IN EARLY MAY, UNTIL THE ABQAIQ FIRE, HAVE BEGUN TO REASSERT THEMSELVES. PRODUCTION DURING THE FIRST 12 DAYS OF JUNE AVERAGED ONLY 4.5 MBPD. THE PRECIPITATE DECLINE IN PRODUCTION WAS NECESSITATED BY THE FALL IN TRADING COMPANY EXPORTS FROM 3,318.9 MBPD IN MAY TO 2,464.8 MBPD DURING JUNE 1-12 AND THE FALL IN NIOC DIRECT EXPORTS FROM 1,288.2 MBPD IN MAY TO 880.8 MBPD DURING JUNE 1-12.

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PAGE 03 TEHRAN 05222 140626Z

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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